(c) what is the number of tribal population displaced with the help of police from this area?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED) : (a) The Government of Gujarat has issued a notification under section 2(8)(d) of the Official Secrets Act, 1923 declaring the dam site and the surrounding areas covering 12 villages as a prohibited place.

(b) and (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Steamer service between Bombay and Goa

2121. DR. BAPU KALDATE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) what steps have been taken by Government to resume the Konkan Coastal passenger steamer service btetween Bombay and Goa; and

(b) by when the service is likely to be provided for the people in his sector?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) The two steamers M.V. Konkan Sevak and M.V. Konkon Shakti, which were being operated by Shipping Corporation of India between Bombay and Goa, were placed at the disposal of the Ministry of Defence with effect from 29-1-1988 and 2-5-1988, respectively. Shipping Corporation of India do not propose to resume this service even after the return of the two steamers to them. M.V. Konkan Shakti was built in 1964 and M.V. Konkan Sevak in 1965. Both the vessels have outlived normal life and are due for scrapping. Government of India had suggested to the Government of Maharashtra and Goa that they might consider acquiring, singly or jointly, suitable new or second-hand vessels and share the losses, if any, involved in running this service. In the mean time, applications from three private parties have been cleared for acquisition of catamaran vessels for operating passanger services between Bombay and Goa.

Government is also re-examining the policy of providing better coastal services in Konkan and elsewhere.

Meeting for solution of Maharashtra-Karnataka boundary dispute

212. DR. BAPU KALDATE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government, as promised, had arranged a meeting between the Chief Ministers of Maharashtra and Karnataka to find out a solution to the issue of bondary dispute between the two States before the imposition of President's rule in Karnataka?

(b) If so, when and the outcome thereof ; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED) : (a) to (c) The former Home Minister had remained in touch with the Chief Ministers of Maharashtra and Karnataka separately in the matter. As a prelude to the holding of a joint meeting between the Chief Ministers of the two States, it was considered appropiate to have separate dicussions with them. Accordingly, the Home Minister invited in the first insitance the then Chief Minister, Karnataka to come for discussions on 17-4-1989. The latter expressed inability to keep this appointment and asked for any date between 28-4-1989 and 6-5-1989.